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October 28, 2002

Date of Deposit

Steven P. Shurtz, Reg. No. 31,424

Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

Steven P. Shurtz

Signature

10/28/02

Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 396/352

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Antonio Chiga

Serial No.: 10/071,865

Filing Date: February 8, 2002

For: FILTER FOR FLUIDS, ESPECIALLY
FUELS

Examiner: Not Assigned

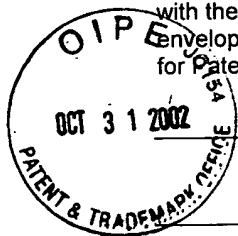
Group Art Unit No.: 1723

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.



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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

The references now cited are the following:

US PATENT DOCUMENTS

| DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME |
|--------------------|------------|----------------------|
| 1,235,438 | 7/31/1917 | H. W. Chynoweth |
| 2,381,949 | 8/14/1945 | A. M. Goodloe et al. |
| 3,826,372 | 7/30/1974 | Bell |
| 4,077,887 | 3/7/1978 | Langvik |
| 4,159,951 | 7/3/1979 | Davis |
| 4,312,753 | 1/26/1982 | Bell |
| 4,420,396 | 12/13/1983 | Yamamoto et al. |
| 4,561,977 | 12/31/1985 | Sasaki |
| 4,617,121 | 10/14/1986 | Yokoyama |
| 4,618,422 | 10/21/1986 | Sasaki et al. |
| 4,743,370 | 5/10/1988 | Mizusawa |
| 4,772,044 | 9/20/1988 | Booher |
| 4,783,260 | 11/8/1988 | Kurihara |
| 4,851,118 | 7/25/1989 | Kurihara |
| 4,874,510 | 10/17/1989 | Akira et al. |
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| 5,084,166 | 1/28/1992 | Shiraga et al. |
| 5,169,531 | 12/8/1992 | Shiraga et al. |
| 5,174,841 | 12/29/1992 | Combest |
| 5,547,568 | 8/20/1996 | Sasaki |
| 5,795,468 | 8/18/1998 | Reising et al. |
| 5,928,507 | 7/27/1999 | Chiga |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY |
|--------------------|------------|---------|
| EP 0 369 039 A1 | 5/23/1990 | EPO |
| EP 0 400 170 A1 | 12/5/1990 | EPO |
| EP 0 475 610 B1 | 3/08/1992 | EPO |
| EP 0 542 547 B1 | 5/19/1993 | EPO |
| EP 0 901 571 B1 | 3/22/2000 | EPO |
| DE 814 362 | 9/20/1951 | Germany |
| DE 825 712 C | 8/19/1954 | Germany |
| DE 26 58 358 C3 | 6/29/1978 | Germany |
| DE 34 08 520 A1 | 9/06/1984 | Germany |
| DE 39 14938 C1 | 10/11/1990 | Germany |
| DE 41 02 474 A1 | 8/06/1992 | Germany |
| DE 295 18 501 U1 | 2/01/1996 | Germany |

| DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY |
|--------------------|------------|---------|
| JP 62 41962 | 7/24/1987 | Japan |
| WO 97/46800 | 12/11/1997 | WIPO |
| WO 00/03784 | 1/27/2000 | WIPO |

OTHER ART REFERENCES

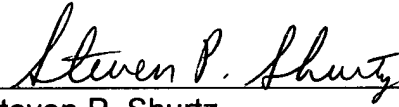
| |
|--|
| Guibet, Jean-Claude, "REPLACEMENT FUELS: DIRECTIONS AND RESEARCH IN FRENCH", XX FISITA CONGRESS", 1984, pp. 2154-2161 original and translation in English. |
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Most of the references are in English, or an English language translation or abstract has been provided. Published German Patent Application DE 34 08 520 A1 is believed to be equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 4,561,977. Gebrauchsmuster DE 295 18 501 U1 describes a filter in a fuel pump inlet. German Patent DE 39 14938 relates to a fuel tank filter having a plastic supporting body that supports filtration material and having a pump connection socket positioned on the exterior of the filter, among other things. German Patent DE 925 712 relates to a small carry-on filtering device, in which the filter element 10 may be pivoted with respect to a housing.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these materials, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing information and listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Steven P. Shurtz", is written over a horizontal line.

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